



DATE: December 29, 2006

TO: Andrew T. Souza

FROM: Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer

FOR: Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Police

Officers Return to Duty

- On December 19th the Police Department welcomed back to duty Officers Trevor Shipman and Daniel Messick. The officers were responding to a call to help a citizen when they were ambushed by a gunman who had placed a phony call to lure the officers into the ambush. The suspect later shot himself after attacking the officers. Officers Shipman and Messick made remarkable progress in overcoming their injuries and were determined to come back to full duty.

UPCOMING EVENTS and PROJECTS

Public Utilities

Annual Hmong New Year Celebration

- Community Sanitation, Water Division, and Recycling staffed booths and discussed City services with visitors at the annual Hmong New Year celebration. Thousands of people gather in December at the Fresno Fair Grounds for this international historic cultural event.

WEEKLY NEWS

KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

- The Fire Department Recruit Academy will commence on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, with 22 firefighter trainees.
- From December 22 through December 28 at 1445 hours, fire crews responded to 541 incidents.

Police

Volunteers Honored

- On December 18th the Fresno Police Department honored its volunteers at the police department. The event was informal and Chief Dyer thanked the volunteers attending the event for the incredible hours served and the quality of service provided to the Police Department and the community. Volunteers honored included Citizens on Patrol, CERT volunteers, Chaplains, Volunteers in Policing and Reserves.

Gang Crackdown

- Ongoing efforts to eliminate the Bulldog street gang continue. The efforts are having an impact on some gang members who once boldly walked around wearing their gang colors in public. On December 19th Central District officers were dispatched to a domestic disturbance. Officers arrested a man for assaulting his girlfriend. He was on felony probation for a previous domestic violence charge and was wanted for another domestic violence charge. Officers discovered that he was wearing gang attire but had attempted to conceal it under a white t-shirt. When asked why, the suspect told the officers that it was because of the city-wide crackdown on gangs and that he was hoping to avoid detection by the gang unit.

KEY RESULT AREA: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Personnel

Drop In Dialogue

- Over 20 City employees attended the final Drop In Dialogue of 2006 entitled "Leaves of Absence." Senior Human Resource Analysts Lori Najera and Rhonda Lacy led discussions on documenting and tracking attendance, how to effectively communicate attendance policies, and how attendance relates to performance evaluations and the disciplinary process.

KEY RESULT AREA: EDUCATION

Public Utilities

Recycling Makes Presentations to Traffic School Students

- Presentations with a focus on Used Motor Oil and Filter Recycling are underway to Central California Driving and Traffic School Students. Presentations provide the opportunity to educate the “new driver” on the proper way to recycle their used oil and filters, inform them on the negative impact of improper disposal of these materials, and local recycling options available.

KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE

FAX/Transportation

FAX Ridership Continues to Increase!

- Ridership continues to increase on the FAX fixed route system. For the month of November 2006, ridership increased 2.7% with 960,073 being served compared to 934,380 in November 2005. Fixed route revenues also increased by 0.4% to \$619,238.85 compared with \$616,560.89 in November 2005.

International Hmong New Year Celebration

- FAX displayed a new 2006 CNG bus from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 27 and Thursday, December 28, 2006. A staff member was onsite for two days to promote transportation and distribute informational materials to event attendees.

FAX's Newest Frequent 15-Minute Service

- Beginning on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, Route 38 will join Routes 28 and 30 with 15-minute service on weekdays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. With the new 15-minute frequencies, FAX Route 38 will provide additional customer convenience, accommodate more passengers, and increase opportunities for timely route connections.

FAX has seen a significant increase in ridership on Routes 28 and 30, the two existing FAX Frequent 15-Minute service routes. Since October 2005, ridership on Route 28 increased by 15% and Route 30 increased by 11%. As a result of these successes, FAX was able to secure additional Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant funding to continue the expansion of FAX Frequent 15-Minute service.

Public Works

- Public Works Median Island crews performed the following for the week:
Cleaning - 2.9 million sq. ft. which equates to 66 acres
Spraying - 2.4 million sq. ft
Irrigation crews worked 171 hours. Irrigation crews are working diligently to wrap our irrigation backflows with a burlap sack to prevent freezing during the winter months. Crews have currently wrapped over half of our backflows and will complete the project within the month.

- Public Works Traffic Engineering staff received the following compliment for their work on Fresno Unified Schools Williams and Olmos for Traffic Signal and Street Light Plan Reviews from Alex Ho, CEO of 2H Engineering Corporation: "I would like to thank all of you, specially the City of Fresno Traffic Engineering personnel for speedy review process. It is a good experience with the City staff and I really appreciate the understanding to get the project review and process in timely manner. While I had similar experiences with City of Oakland Chief Electrical Inspector for efficient services. I have to say City of Fresno is going on my top good government list. Thanks again & happy holidays."
- Public Works Signal Shop, Construction Management, Traffic Engineering, and Engineering Services staff all played an integral part in reviewing plans and inspecting two new traffic signals at Friant Road/Riverbank Avenue and Friant Road/Copper Avenue that were constructed by Granville Homes. The developer held a grand "turn on the signal" event with a ribbon cutting.
- Public Works Traffic Engineering staff received a call about street name signs missing near Michigan Avenue/Armstrong Avenue. The call was a result of the Police and Fire departments trying to respond to a call and could not find the new streets. The emergency responders had to call for directions. Traffic Engineering determined that two street name signs were missing. PW Street Maintenance Signing and Striping discovered that stop signs had been moved. That same day the stop signs were replaced and replacement street name signs. Next day both street name signs were placed. The original caller was grateful that the City responded and got the signs installed so quickly. Great coordination and communication within the Public Works Department to resolve a safety issue.
- The Parking Services Vehicle Abatement Team partnered with Bruce Rohde and No Neighborhood Left Behind (NNLB) #73 to leave one-day notices on vehicles parked on City streets bounded by Belmont/Olive and Cedar/Maple. The team assisted by towing at least 3 vehicles so crews could proceed with their scheduled work. Thanks to Shawn Taylor and Manuel Frutos for making this possible. The two will be assisting in the coming weeks as well, when the NNLB crew heads to the Shaw Ave/Golden State area.
- During Calendar year 2006, Public Works Construction Management finalized the construction contracts for 19 new subdivisions and 37 Capital Improvement Projects.
- During Calendar year 2006, Survey section also completed a total of 80 topographic survey requests.
- Street Maintenance Street Concrete Repairs crews completed concrete repairs in four areas as part of District 5 infrastructure projects. These projects were all completed under budget, allowing for additional areas to be repaired.
- Street Maintenance Street Tree Crews completed tree trimming to address visibility issues on Fig Garden and Tamera.
- Street Maintenance Street Sign crews maintained and removed graffiti from 489 signs and placed over 3000 raised markers on City Streets. Crews also ground

existing paint and restriped at Willow Avenue and Alluvial Avenue to complete the frontage addition.

- Street Maintenance Street Asphalt crews widened a section of Willow Avenue and Alluvial Avenue to meet frontage road limit requirements. The crews used great technical skills to complete this asphalt work - mostly hand work.
- Public Works staff continues to prepare for stakeholder meetings for the Street Impact Fees and also provide information to City Council on January 9th to adopt a resolution. Staff continues to work with the Stakeholders to come to a resolution of how to equitably fund roadway improvements to implement the 2025 General Plan Transportation Circulation Plan and yet still promote development growth. The next meeting will be Thursday, December 28, 2006 from 2-4 pm.